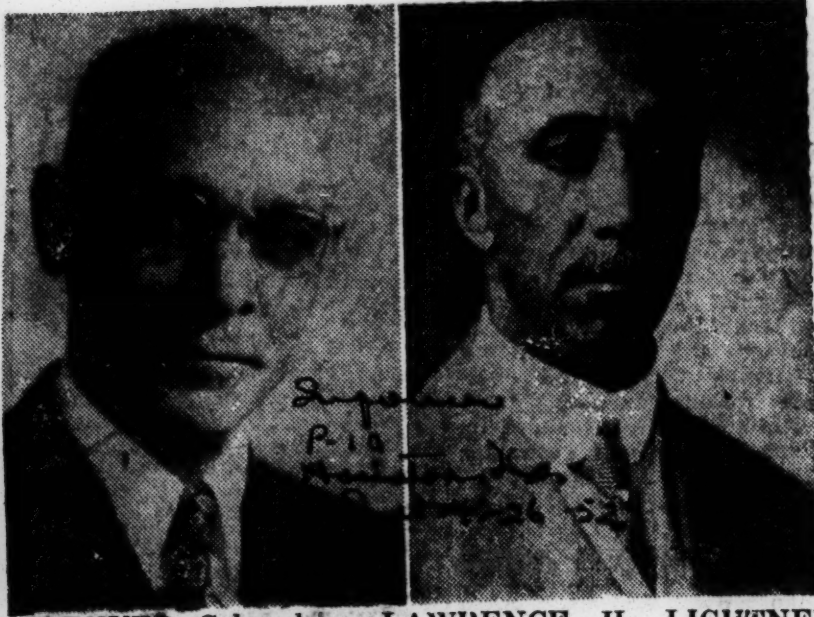
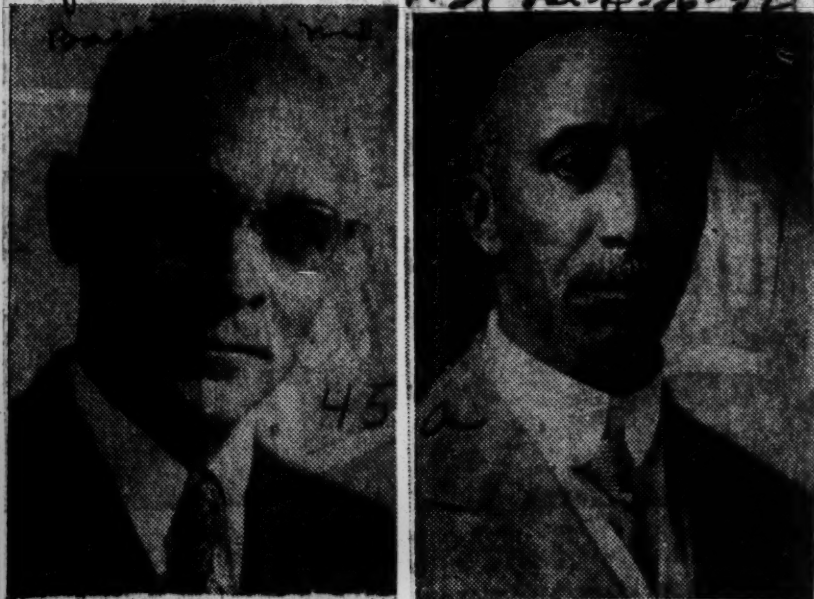




DENVER, Colorado — LAWRENCE H. LIGHTNER, left, Supreme Commander of The American Woodmen, will lead tens of thousands of his members in the organization's 51st Anniversary Thanksgiving Celebration next Sunday (April 27). Members of The American Woodmen in nearly 500 camps and tents in the United States will join in paying tribute to the memory of the late CASSIUS M. WHITE, right, who was the organization's first Supreme Commander and is credited with building the organization during its perilous early years. The American Woodmen today has assets of more than six and a half million dollars and has close to 60,000 members.

Woodmen To Honor 1st Leader



Lawrence H. Lightner, left, Supreme Commander of the American Woodmen, will lead thousands of his members in the organization's 51st Anniversary Thanksgiving celebration

April 27. American Woodmen all over the country will pay tribute to the memory of the late Cassius M. White, right, who was the organization's first Supreme Commander.

Woodmen To Hold Meet in Texarkana

TEXARKANA, Texas — More than 500 delegates from six western and southwestern states will meet in Texarkana, Texas, next Wednesday, June 25, for the twelfth annual regional session of the American Woodmen. Delegates to the three-day meeting to be held June 25, 26, and 27 will represent American Woodmen Camps and Tents located in Arkansas, California, Colorado, Louisiana, Oklahoma and Texas.

Two outstanding features of the annual session will be the Woodmen parade on Wednesday evening, June 25, and the regional American Woodmen Junior Oratorical contest to be held Thursday night, June 26. For the parade, close to \$250 in prizes will be awarded for outstanding floats, drum and bugle corps and marching units. Prizes for the oratorical contest are college scholarships.

Among the national officers of the American Woodmen who will play leading roles in the meeting are Supreme Commander Lawrence H. Lightner of Denver, Colo., and Vice Supreme Commander J. E. Robinson of Houston, Texas.

Other regional meetings will be held later in the summer in Dothan, Alabama, and Gary, Ind. Official host at the southwestern regional meeting will be Woodmen Supervisor W. A. Espy, who makes his home in Texarkana.

The American Woodmen now in its 51st year, was a pioneer in the field of legal reserve fraternal life insurance associations. The organization numbers around 60,000 members in 23 states and the District of Columbia.

Isis Re-Elect

Mrs. E. Moore

Agis-Amerman
800 Daughters At
Indianapolis Parley

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind. (ANP)—

Mrs. Ercelle Harmon Moore of Buffalo was re-elected imperial commandress of the Daughters of Isis, auxiliary to Order of Nobles

of the Mystic Shrine, at its national convention here last week.

The auxiliary observed the 42nd anniversary Aug. 23.

Some 800 Daughters of Isis, representing a membership of 5,200 women, attended the meeting. Among them were three former imperial commandresses: Nett Dyce, Chicago, and Launa Mesdames Ursula Hines Botts of Minneapolis, Minn., Willie J. Britton of Cincinnati, Ohio, and Beulah L. McKay of Oklahoma City, Okla.

Ballou
Richmonder Honored
The honorary degree of past imperial commandress was bestowed on Mrs. Alma Neville of Richmond, Va. Mrs. Neville was second lieutenant commandress until illness forced her to resign.

Joseph Clark, mayor of Indianapolis, extended the key to the city to the convention and visited the meeting on two occasions.

Among members and courts represented at the convention included:

Oct. 8 - 34-32
COURTS REPRESENTED
Arabia, Portsmouth, Va.—Mrs. Helen I. Holman, director of music and commandress; Mesdames Emma Yancey, Mary L. Scott, Blanch D. Jones, Sarah Ringwood, Sarah Plummer, Rachel Crowdy, Rebecca Hill, Edyth Hill, Lillio M. Hill, Madeline Murray, Mageline Hill, Eunice Sears, Dorothy Roberts and Noble Harry Holman.

Mecca court, Washington —Mrs. Ethel T. Campbell, commandress; Mesdames Olevia M. Amis, Ophelia Smith, Mamie Clark, Evelyn Hampton, Elizabeth Cooke, Capitola Horn, Mary Smith, Augusta Moore, Bertha Bragg;

Mesdames Gracie Witherspoon, Annie E. Jackson, Evelyn Smith, Inez Weaver, Edna Bowles, Jennie Robinson, Hester Wilson, Madeline Taylor, Nora Henderson, Eunice Jones, Faustina Richardson. Vera Toney and Jessie Gam-

ble.

Arts, Crafts Exhibit

A feature of the meeting was an arts and crafts display. An unusual piece of art work by Mrs. Edith Grant of Zaha court depicted the Lord's Supper. It was presented to the imperial court by Mrs. Jane Johnson, commandress, Mrs. Mary Turner and Mrs. Cloma Scott.

Also donated to the imperial court was a handmade patchwork quilt with beautiful blended pastel colors. Mrs. Flora Davis of Dayton, Ohio, made the quilt. Mrs. Davis, however, was unable to attend the convention.

The arts and crafts committee included

Mesdames Margaret Alexander imperial director of arts and crafts; Viola M. Perry, Buffalo, N.Y.; Cleopatra S. Morse, Tuskegee, Ala.; Wilda Marshall, Washington; Mary Pierson, Detroit; Lymer imperial commandresses; Hargett, Greensboro, N.C.

Finley's 'Steamroller' Out of Business!

Elks' New Chief Goes Into Action

Hobson Reynolds to Withdraw As Grand Exalted Ruler Candidate

BROOKLYN, N. Y.—Finley Wilson's old "steamroller" tactics which beat many an ambitious young and capable man into submission are definitely dead in the the Elks. In his first major speech since stepping into Finley's shoes in February, Grand Exalted Ruler Robert H. Johnson of Philadelphia let that be known here Sunday at a banquet honoring Past Grand Exalted Ruler William H. McFarland.

"Our young people are our Elksdom of tomorrow," said the handsome, six-foot-four head of the world's greatest Negro fraternal order, "and young people today are not fools. We must offer them a good, solid program if we are to bring them in." His words were precipitated by the fact that the Elks suffered heavy membership losses during the three-year illness of the late J. Finley Wilson.

PLUNGING into a schedule of activity which is almost back-breaking, the new Grand Exalted Ruler, also a top figure in the VFW, was preparing to take his message into all parts of the nation in the four months preceding the next Grand Lodge at Atlantic City, N. J., in August.

Son of an American Negro and an Irish mother from Donegal, Westmoreland County, Ireland, the stalwart Philadelphian has a busy schedule ahead of him.

His most important appearance will be on the night of April 4 in Philadelphia at a "Coronation Ball" at which former Magistrate Hobson R. Reynolds is expected to announce his withdrawal from the race against Mr. Johnson as Grand Exalted Ruler, leaving Bob unopposed in August.

That ball will also see the coronation of Grand Daughter Ruler Nettie C. Jackson of Staten Island, N. Y.

Alabama Elks State Big Ballot Drive

TUSKEGEE, Ala.—The twenty-one-lodge Alabama Association of Elks is scheduled to meet in annual convention here April 27-29.

A parade, oratorical contest and public meeting will feature the convention. The delegates will hear a report from W. P. Mitchell, chairman of the Civil Liberties Committee on the status project "Every Elk a Voter."

Ernest T. Wright of Tuscaloosa is president of the association, and Charles L. Perkins is director of public relations.

Bahamas Island Girl Wins Florida Elks' State Oratorical Contest

TAMPA, Fla.—Miss Lenora Ingraham, Nassau, Bahamas, won the \$200 first prize in the Elks state oratorical contest here last week and the right to compete in the regional contest in July.

Winner of the regional contest will be eligible to compete in the finals at the Grand Lodge in Atlantic City in August for the annual \$1,000 scholarship.

Miss Ingraham spoke on "The Constitution of the Bahamas and Education." Second prize winner was Miss Altheir Jones, representing Don Thompson high school of Tampa. Miss Rosalyn Ann More of Campbell high school, Daytona Beach, was given third prize.

Principal address of the five-day confab of the Florida State Association of Elks, April 13-17, was delivered by Dr. Jackson L. Burnside, prominent fraternal and civic leader of the Bahamas Islands.

Memorial services were held at St. Paul AME church, with Rev. Wayman Jenkins delivering the eulogy.

Delegates to the lodge held all sessions at the masonic temple. Daughter Elks held all of their sessions at Bethel Baptist church.

Officers elected by the delegates and installed by Judge Hue of Washington, grand secretary, were: Albert Bethune, president, Daytona Beach; J. D. Mather, first vice president, Tampa; Jerry Walker, second vice president, Sanford; John Bullard, third vice president, Nassau; John Keen, financial secretary, Clearwater; Thornton Smith, treasurer, Daytona Beach; Robert Brown, esquire, Eustis; Osborne Jones, inner guard, Cocoa; Sam Taylor, tiller, Ft. Lauderdale; Ben Wilson, Tampa; Fred Maultsby, Florence Villa and Solomon Brookins, Pensacola, trustees;

William Boatwright director of Junior Herd, West Palm Beach;

Ben Wilson and Sam McCall, assistant directors of Junior Herd, Tampa; Clarence Bain, commissioner of education; M. Thompson and William Hook, assistant commissioners of education; Booker T. Dunn, recording secretary, Miami; Richard Smith, assistant secretary, Winter Park, and William O'Brien, brigadier general, Miami.

The 1953 convention will be held in Jacksonville and the 1954 meet has been set for Nassau, Bahamas. Bay City Lodge, Ben Wilson ruler, was host for the 1952 confab.

Tuskegee Host To Alabama Elks April 27

TUSKEGEE, Ala.—The 24th annual convention of the Alabama State Association of Elks will be held at Tuskegee institute April 27-29.

State officials of the Elks said last week that more than 3,000 delegates and visitors are expected to attend the meeting.

Five grand lodge officers and the grand daughter ruler will be present at the convention.

The Elks state-wide oratorical contest, open to high school students, will be held April 27, in the Institute chapel. Proceedings of the contest will be tape recorded and broadcast Monday, April 28, over station WJXX at Montgomery.

A flower pageant will be held by the Daughter Elks of the state on the opening night of the meeting.

Booker T. Washington lodge 762 and Cosmopolitan Temple 924 will be hosts to the convention.

Ernest J. Wright of Tuscaloosa is state president of Alabama Elksdom. Charles L. Perkins of Mobile is state publicity director.

Alabama Elks To Meet At Tuskegee On April 27-29

TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE, Ala.—(SNS)—The Alabama State Elks Association will convene in Tuskegee, Ala., April 27-29, with the Booker T. Washington Elks Lodge and the Cosmopolitan Temple of Daughters Elks as hosts.

The planning which is under the chairmanship of Jesse W. Esau, has been completed in every detail. While the actual program will not begin until Sunday, April 27th, the local Lodge is sponsoring Amos Milburn's orchestra at the Propeller Club Saturday, April 26th in a pre-convention dance.

Beginning Sunday morning, all Elks and Daughter Elks are asked to come to Tuskegee early enough to view the Tuskegee Institute "Line of March" and to take part in the Chapel services on the campus. The annual Elks parade will form in the Logan Hall area of Tuskegee Institute—Make a circuit to the town of Tuskegee and back to the Institute Chapel, the site of the oratorical contest. The oratorical contest will begin at 2:30 with Dr. J. Garrick Hardy of Alabama State Teachers College presiding. Dr. Hardy, director of the Elks Education Department for Alabama stated that a student from each of Alabama's high school districts will give oration.

Several features of entertainment are planned for Sunday night. The business sessions will begin Monday morning, April 28th; a civil liberties discussion headed by William P. Mitchell, Elks State Civil Liberties Director, is scheduled for 3 p. m. Monday. The Annual Elks Ball will begin at 10 p. m. Monday with a local band providing the music. Preceding the dance a variety show, directed by Miss Barbara Dean Williams, will entertain the delegates.

Tuesday will be given to adopting reports and resolutions, and electing officers for 1952-1953. All business sessions will be held in the Lodge's new quarters—formerly the Walwyn Clinic. This building is being renovated and redecorated and when completed, it will provide the space and atmosphere necessary for the rapidly increasing membership of the Lodge and Temple.

Seek J. Finley Wilson Memorial

WASHINGTON, D. C. — Senator John M. Butler, (R., Md.), introduced last Thursday a joint resolution authorizing the erection of a memorial to the late J. Finley Wilson at an appropriate place on a part of public grounds in the District of Columbia.

The resolution would authorize the granting of permission to the Improved Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks of the World to erect the proposed memorial.

Says Johnson Rightful Head Of the Elks

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Perry W. Howard, grand legal adviser of the Improved Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks of the World, has rendered an opinion to the members of the order that Robert H. Johnson, of Philadelphia, is the legal successor to the late J. Finley Wilson.

Pointing out that there had been "some misrepresentations and misunderstandings" about the grand esteemed leading knight filling the unexpired term of the grand exalted ruler, Howard asserted that no doubt in the land will question the Elks' law governing succession upon the death of a grand exalted ruler.

Some members of the order had contended that the office of grand exalted ruler, after the death of Mr. Wilson, remained vacant until a successor is elected at next grand lodge session in Atlantic City in August.

Senator Proposes Wilson Memorial

WASHINGTON (NNPA) — Senator John M. Butler, Republican, of Maryland, introduced a joint resolution on Thursday authorizing the erection of a memorial to the late J. Finley Wilson at an appropriate place on the part of public grounds in the District of Columbia.

The resolution would authorize the granting of permission to the Improved Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks of the World to erect the proposed memorial.

The site would be approved by the National Capital Park and Planning Commission. The type and design of the memorial, the plans for the treatment of the grounds connected with the site, and the adequacy and propriety of the site, would have to be approved by the Commission of Fine Arts.

It specifically provides that the United States shall be put to no expense in the erection of the memorial, which would be under the supervision of the Director of the National Park Service.

Mr. Wilson was the grand exalted ruler of the Elks for thirty years prior to his death this year.

Senator Backs Memorial To Finley Wilson

WASHINGTON, D. C. — Senator John M. Butler, Republican, of Maryland, introduced last Thursday a joint resolution authorizing the erection of a memorial to the late J. Finley Wilson at an appropriate place on a part of public grounds in the District of Columbia.

The resolution would authorize the granting of permission to the Improved Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks of the World to erect the proposed memorial. The site would be approved by the National Capital Park and Planning Commission, and the type and design of the memorial and the plans for the treatment of the grounds connected with the site, and the adequacy and propriety of the designated site would have to be approved by the Commission of Fine Arts.

The resolution specifically provides that the United States shall be put to no expense in the erection of the memorial, which would be erected under the supervision of the Director of the National Park Service.

Unless in the estimation of the Secretary of the Interior sufficient funds are available to insure the completion of the memorial, the landscaping of the site, and the erection of the memorial is begun within five years after the passage of the resolution, the authorization would be revoked.

Mr. Wilson was the grand exalted ruler of the Elks for thirty years prior to his death this year.

Alabama Elks Pick Pair to Attend Meet

TUSKEGEE — Tuesday, June 10, at the beautiful Elks Home Brother W. P. Mitchell, Grand District Deputy, presided over the semi-annual election of officers of the Booker T. Washington Elks Lodge 762.

The following officers were elected: Robert H. Moton Jr., exalted ruler; Jesse W. Esau, esteemed leading knight; Larry Robinson, esteemed loyal knight; Herbert E. Carter, esteemed lecturing knight; Frank A. Davis, esquire; George W. Whitehead, tiler; Allen J. Richardson, inner guard; William Washington, trustee; George Carter, trustees; and Wallace Capel, medical examiner.

John C. Butler and Harvey J. Guinn were elected delegates to the Grand Lodge which will meet in Atlantic City, N. J., in August.

Bro. Robert R. Moton Jr. succeeds Bro. John C. Butler, present Exalted Ruler, who has presided for the past three terms.



J. FINLEY WILSON

'Little Napoleon' Ruled Elkdome For Nearly 30 Years

WASHINGTON, D. C.—(NNPA)—J. Finley Wilson 72, grand exalted ruler of the Improved Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks of the World died at his home, 1813 Vernon Street, Northwest, at 8:30 o'clock Tuesday morning, February 19.

The "Little Napoleon of Elkdome," as Mr. Wilson was affectionately known by "Bills" throughout the country had been critically ill since Monday, February 11. As had been his custom, he took his last daily automobile ride on Sunday, February 10. The next day he became ill. Since February 12th he had been under an oxygen tent with three nurses working around the clock in attending him in 8-hour shifts.

Death came to Mr. Wilson peacefully. His widow, Mrs. Leah Farrar Wilson, said he just grew "weaker and weaker and weaker." She

said he was conscious almost to his last moment. She talked to him between 7:30 and 8 a. m. "He looked up at me and smiled and recognized me, but he was weak."

Doctors had told her that he needed all of his strength and to help him conserve it, she had.

Death was due to a complication of ailments principally diabetes and a heart condition. Three physicians Dr. J. B. Johnson, Dr. Jas. E. Walker, and Dr. Frank Jones

Serving longer than any other grand exalted ruler in the history of the Elks Mr. Wilson's administration of the order covered the period of its greatest growth in membership, finances, acquisition of property, and community influence.

He was elected grand exalted ruler at the annual convention in Newark, New Jersey, in August, 1922, and served continuously as such for nearly thirty years.

Robert H. Johnson, of Philadelphia, grand esteemed leading knight, succeeds Mr. Wilson as acting grand exalted ruler. He will serve in an acting capacity until the next grand lodge session in Atlantic City in August.

Funeral services for Mr. Wilson will be held at Metropolitan Baptist Church at 1 p. m., Saturday, February 23. The Rev. E. C. Smith, pastor, will officiate. There will be both Masonic and Elk services. Mr. Wilson was a thirty-third degree Mason.

TENNESSEAN

Mr. Wilson was born in Dixon, Tennessee, August 28, 1880. He has led a colorful life, which included a career as a newspaper editor and publisher prior to his election as Elks' grand exalted ruler. He edited and published The Washington Eagle which is now the official organ of the Elks.

He was the fourth of six children of James L. and Nancy Wiley Wilson. In addition to his widow, surviving him are his oldest brother, John S. Wilson of Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, and a sister, Mrs. Annie Dixon of Chattanooga, Tennessee. Mrs. Dixon arrived here Wednesday, February 13.

Mr. Wilson was married to Miss Leah Farrar of Richmond, Virginia, July 23, 1924. She has been his constant companion ever since, helping him carry on his work as grand exalted ruler and attending him through all of his illnesses.

Ironically, it was at the John Brown farm near Harper's Ferry, West Virginia, on July 4, 1949, when Mr. Wilson first became ill. He and William C. Hueston, Elks' grand secretary, purchased this farm to

turn it over to the order and make it into a national shrine to God's Angry Man."

NATIONAL SHRINE

The making of the John Brown farm into a national shrine was the last big project that Mr. Wilson undertook for the Elks. It also was one in which he perhaps took greatest pride among his achievements as the head of the order.

His first illness was a foot swelling—gout. He went to John Hopkins Hospital in Baltimore and underwent treatment. He later went in September, 1949, to the Mayo Brothers' Clinic in Rochester, Minnesota, and stayed there about three weeks.

He was overworked and showed the first symptoms of cardiac trouble. He was given a rest *case*. On this visit he stayed there about three weeks.

"Basically," said Mrs. Wilson, "Mr. Wilson's trouble was due to overwork. The late Dr. Charles Drew said Mr. Wilson's trouble was slow circulation." The widow explained that before travel by airplane became almost commonplace, Mr. Wilson traveled, almost continuously, going from place to place to set up Elks' lodges and keep other engagements.

Traveling by train, she said, he got rest in a drawing room. But when he decided to travel by plane, she said, he got no rest in going from one engagement to another. "That is what broke his health down," she asserted.

Mr. Wilson returned to the Mayo Clinic on January 12, 1950, and remained there until March 21, 1950. While there he had two skin grafts. Neither was wholly successful.

The doctor gave him the results of the skin graft and recommended amputation. Mr. Wilson told him before he would consent to amputation he would go elsewhere and see what other physicians said.

The doctors asked him what he wanted them to do. He told them to give him his bill and send a report of his case to the Cleveland Clinic.

At the time Mr. Wilson's condition was such that he had to be removed from the Mayo Clinic on a stretcher and taken to the train, in an ambulance. A nurse and Mrs. Wilson accompanied him. He was met at the train in Chicago with an ambulance and taken to a hospital, where he remained until it was time to be taken to another station and put aboard a train for Cleveland. At Cleveland

he was met with an ambulance.

SKIN GRAFT

The Cleveland Clinic immediately started work on his circulation. A skin graft at the Cleveland Clinic was made, and after remaining there for sometime he was able to walk again.

Upon his discharge from the Cleveland Clinic, he returned to Washington, accompanied by Mrs. Wilson and Charles P. McClane, of Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, grand director of the Elks' public relations department who had been with him at the Mayo Clinic and in Cleveland.

Even though he was in bed at the Mayo and Cleveland clinics, Mr. Wilson carried on his work as grand exalted ruler. While in the Cleveland Clinic he organized the Sidney B. Thompson Lodge in Cleveland with Marion Motley, the Cleveland Browns' great fullback, as grand exalted ruler, and Bill Willis, the Browns' end, and Larry Doby, the Cleveland Indians' star centerfielder, among the members.

After Mr. Wilson returned to his home in Washington, he regained sufficient strength to go to Chicago to the Elks annual convention in 1950. He even presided over some of the sessions of the grand lodge.

Between the Chicago convention and the 1951 convention in Buffalo, New York, Mr. Wilson continued to fill engagements. At the Buffalo convention he presented the Lovejoy Medal the Elks' achievement award to Dr. Ralph J. Bunche, director of the United Nations Trusteeship Division.

HEALTH BEGAN TO FAIL

After he returned from a check-up at the Cleveland Clinic on December 11, Mr. Wilson's health began to fail. The first engagement he was unable to keep was at York, Pennsylvania, last January 6.



TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE, Ala. — (SNS) — A total of 41 members have been initiated into B. T. Washington Lodge No. 762 as they prepare to entertain the State Elks Association, April 27-29. *Wored P. 6 July 25 52*

H. C. Saunders, District Educational Director of the IBPOE of W for the Eastern Alabama Counties, will preside at the Elks oratorical contest which was held at the Darden High School, Opelika, Alabama. Tuesday night, April 22, be-

Ala. State Elks To Hold Meeting In Tuskegee

TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE, Ala. —

The Booker T. Washington Elks Lodge and Cosmopolitan Temple of Daughters Elks of Tuskegee are set to entertain the Alabama State Elks Association when it meets here beginning Sunday morning, April 27. Many delegates have indicated that they will arrive Saturday night in order that they may take part in the pre-convention festivities which include a dance at the Propeller Club, with Amos Milburn's orchestra furnishing the music.

Registration of delegates will also begin Saturday night at the convention headquarters (the Elks Home) and will continue through Tuesday, April 29th, the closing date of the convention. The Grand Exalted Ruler of the IBPOE of W, Robert H. Johnson of Pennsylvania; the Grand Daughter Ruler, Mrs. Nettie C. Jackson; the Grand Daughter Secretary, Mrs. Buena Kelly Berry; and Dr. E. T. Belsaw of Mobile, Ala.

Executive Secretary of the Medical Department are listed among the Grand Lodge officers who will attend the three-day session. Many out-of-town Elks have indicated that they will be on hand Sunday morning sufficiently early to view the Tuskegee Institute "Line of March," and to attend chapel services on the campus. *See 4-25-52*

The Elks parade units will assemble in the Logan Hall area at 12:30. The parade will commence at 1 P. M. Sunday. Tuskegee Institute's 80 piece band, directed by Alton Davenport, will lead the parade. The Central High band of Tuscaloosa, the Parker High School band of Birmingham, and other bands from throughout the State will provide music for the marchers. The parade route carries the group to the City of Tuskegee then back to the Institute Chapel where the Elks State oratorical eliminations will get underway. Dr. J. Garrick Hardy of the Alabama State Teachers College, and Elks State Educational Director will preside at the contest. There will be nine contestants, one from each of the high school districts. *Birmingham*

The successful student will com-

beginning at 7:30. The successful student Tuesday night viec for State honors Sunday afternoon, April 27th at the Tuskegee Institute Chapel. The State elimination is a feature of the State Elks Association that will be held in Tuskegee, with the Booker T. Washington Elks Lodge and the Cosmopolitan Temple of Daughters serving as host. Saunders stated that a student from each of the nine high schools in the Eastern Alabama District will give orations.

pete for the Elks regional scholarship in July. Immediately following the contest, the Elks will place a wreath on the grave of Booker T. Washington in a brief ceremony. The local Temple of Daughters is giving a flower pageant Sunday night at 8 o'clock. *1-2*

Monday morning, April 28 will mark the opening of the business sessions, with the Bills meeting at the Elks Home and the Daughters at the Propeller Club. The morning session will be given to reports from Lodges; assignment of committees, and the presentation of the President's address. Beginning at 2 P. M. there will be a panel discussion on "Elks Lodges and Club Administration" — the participants are Exalted Rulers E. L. D. Moss of Selma, Ala.; George Norman of Montgomery; Alex Herman of Mobile; Johnny Wilhite of Birmingham, and John C. Butler of Tuskegee.

William P. Mitchell, State Elks Civil Liberties Director of Tuskegee will conduct a panel discussion on the topic: "The Importance of the Ballot," beginning at 3 P. M. The Daughters will share in the civil liberties discussion. The "Campus Cappers" variety show will entertain the visitors beginning at 8 P. M. Monday. The Elks Ball will be

held at the Propeller Club beginning at 10 P. M.

The final business session will be held Tuesday, April 29th, at which time officers will be elected for 1952-1953. E. J. Wright of Tuscaloosa is the president; Richard A. Carter of Montgomery is Secretary, and Birmingham's L. E. Jackson is Treasurer. The host Lodge and Temple will entertain the visitors with a barbecue on the lawn of the Elks Home Tuesday afternoon at 4 o'clock.

Job of "Grand Exalted" Deserves Business Talent

Characteristics of Bob Johnson, Herb Jones, Leading Contenders. Analyzed

Editor's note: This is the second of a series of four articles on the forthcoming Elks' national convention in Atlantic City, N. J., August 25-29.

By T. J. SELLERS

Some fifty odd years ago, when B. F. Howard crossed the river from his home in Covington, Ky., and went over to Cincinnati, Ohio, to set up the Alpha Lodge No. 1, he laid the foundation for what was to become the largest Negro fraternal organization in the world. Howard was the founder of the Improved Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks of the World.

But it is rare to find a person who associates the name of B. F. Howard, or any of the nine men who followed him in the position of Grand Exalted Ruler, with the national leadership of the Negro Elks. This distinction belongs to the late J. Finley Wilson because he was the undisputed builder and boss of the organization for a period of 24 years.

During the three decades of his administration, Dr. Wilson saw lodges, councils and associations set up in just about every state in the union and was able to stretch this vast empire into the West Indies, Panama, Honduras, Hawaii, Cuba, Bahama Islands and Canada.

The position of Grand Exalted Ruler which had been held by Dr. William E. Atkins, Dr. James E. Mills, J. Frank Wheaton, Harry H. Pace, T. Gillis Nutter, Judge Armond Scott, George W. F. McMechen, S. W. Malloy and George F. Wibecan, became a career for J. Finley Wilson and Elksdom moved from the lowly status of just another benefit society to the bracket of big business in colored America.

In a recent report made to the Grand Lodge by Perry Howard, its legal advisor, it was estimated that the Improved Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks of the World did an annual business on an average of \$200,000. This figure would certainly place the fraternal group among the top notch Negro corporations.

I have given this brief sketch of Negro Elksdom as a business so that we may be able to grasp the full scope of the job which was left vacant when Dr. Wilson died on February 19 of this year.

Any organization that can do an annual business of

around \$200,000 and show a net worth of \$467,018. 96, as was the case in the most recent report available, deserves the most capable executive talent that it can find within its membership.

While the job of leading Negro Elksdom must be done by a man who has been sold on the merits of the present four point program, and who is at the same time capable of creating new programs as the needs of the membership increase, it is also clear that the Grand Exalted Ruler must be a business executive, in the strictest sense of the term, because Negro Elksdom has become BIG BUSINESS.

Who are the men that are seeking this highest seat in the Grand Lodge?

What are they like?

Let's take a quick look at the first two candidates that I met. We can start with Robert Johnson, present Grand Exalted Ruler since the death of J. Finley Wilson.

Bob Johnson lives in Philadelphia, Pa. He was born there on May 27, 1894, and is 58 years of age, if my subtraction is correct. He was educated in the public schools in his hometown and attended Dover State College, at Dover, Delaware.

Mr. Johnson served on the Mexican Border with Company B. 24th U. S. Infantry and Company C. 368th Infantry, 92nd Division in France. He looks stern and tough like I had always imagined regular army men were supposed to look. But he talks straight and gives the impression that he means what he says.

Bob Johnson is not a novice in politics. He has been a member of the 30th Ward Republican Committee of Philadelphia for 28 years. He was secretary of that group for five years and has been chairman since 1938. He is employed by the city as a cashier in the Traffic Court.

Members of the O. V. Catto Lodge like to point out that the lodge liquidated the mortgage, made \$39,000 worth of improvements on the building and increased the membership since Bob took over as Exalted Ruler in 1940.

His connection with the Grand Lodge dates back to 1942 when he served as Commissioner of Transportation. After holding this job for four years, he became Grand Esteemed Lecturing Knight and was moved up to the station of Grand Esteemed Leading Knight in 1951. He was elevated to his present position after the death of J. Finley Wilson.

Bob Johnson told me that he did not believe in so much talk but that he pledged himself to "give the Grand Temple back to the Grand Temple," if elected and to see to it that the men in the ranks would have "more voice in Grand Lodge affairs."

Bob Johnson has had the full support of Hobson Reynolds, Grand Director of Civil Liberties, and generally regarded as one of the most popular and talented men in the upper circles of Elksdom.

Reynolds told me that he had stepped inside in favor of the present incumbent and that he had been actively campaigning for Johnson because he feels that Bob should have a two-year shot at the office. He frankly stated that he was not a candidate.

However, when I asked him whether he would run if drafted, Reynolds replied: "I will have to make that de-

cision when the proper time presents itself." Impartial observers are not discounting the role that Reynolds may play when election day comes in Atlantic City.

When the late J. Finley Wilson was entering the last stages of his illness, he requested Herbert E. Jones to step down as the Grand Esteemed Loyal Knight and become the Grand Organizer instead. Down in Washington, D. C., where the Herb Jones Boosters have set up national headquarters, they will tell you that this position of Grand Organizer required Herb to travel and assume many of the late Grand Exalted Ruler's duties. The boys will go on to show that this, in itself, was an expression of the confidence that the former "Grand" had in Herb Jones.

Herbert E. Jones has a fighting determination to become the next Grand Exalted Ruler and he believes that his long record of loyalty to the organization entitles him to the top job now that the boss has gone.

Herb is a great, big fellow, rather tall and erect, and that is why, perhaps, the late Finley Wilson called him the "Tall Sycamore". He rattles off his speeches with all of the fire and emotional fervor of the old-line Elk orator and he does not pull punches when he gets warmed up.

Herb joined the Elks in Alexandria, Va., his home-

town, and went on to become the Exalted ruler of the progressive Columbia Lodge No. 85 at Washington, D. C. His friends say that his leadership was responsible for the liquidation of the debt at Columbia Lodge. However, the candidate from Washington, D. C., is running on a seven point platform which, among other things, puts him on record as being opposed to the Exalted Ruler of the Grand Lodge holding office for a period longer than four years.

He wants to see the ritual enforced so that there would be no conflict to one's religious or political opinions. He stresses the importance of having the power of the Grand Lodge in the members and not in the officers, and he would revise the Constitution for the benefit of the members.

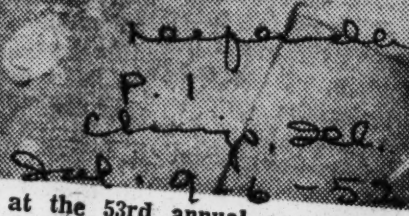
Herb told me that he had been connected with the Grand Lodge for 28 years and that he held office under J. Finley Wilson for 12 years.

And there we have two rather brief peeps at two of the men who are seeking to head the 500,000 Elks in America and other parts of the world.

Next week, I shall introduce J. Leroy Jordan, of Elizabeth, N. J., and tell you about his plans for becoming the next Grand Exalted Ruler of the Improved Benevolent Protective Order of Elks of the World when the Grand lodge convention meets in his home State in August.

Dawson Rips Ban: Stirs Elks

Bob Johnson, New Ruler; Cite Rickey



Ruler, at the 53rd annual convention of the Elks at Atlantic City, N. J., last week. Mrs. Jackson succeeds the late Mrs. Elizabeth Ross Gordon.

behalf of Gov. Adlai Stevenson

This, the election of Robert H. Johnson of Philadelphia as grand exalted ruler and Mrs. Nettie Carter Jackson as grand daughter ruler topped off one of the most colorful conventions of the IBPOE of W. *Feb - 9-6-52*
More than 25,000 delegates and some 50,000 visitors attended the

More than 25,000 delegates and some 50,000 visitors attended the

seven-day confab of machine-like maneuvering, fireworks, fist fights, and acclaimed the awarding of the Lovejoy Medal to Branch Rickey, general manager of the Pittsburgh Pirates, who signed Jackie Robinson into organized baseball in 1946. He was also made an honorary member.

Part of the fireworks came

Congressman Dawson was heckled by a number of staunch Republicans. They shouted "shut him up!" "Shut him up!" "Make him sit down!" But others shouted "Let him talk!" "Let him talk!" When he sat down he had won many converts from the volume of the applause.

On the platform with Congress-
man Dawson were Republican
National Committeeman Perry
Howard and Pennsylvania GOP
Committeeman Judge Hobson
Reynolds and Judge W. C. Hous-
ton.

An invitation to address the

Openly opposing Johnson, who had been installed grand ruler the night of Wilson's funeral, were Herbert Jones of Washington, grand organizer and J. Leroy Jordan of Jersey City, Judge Hobson Reynolds, grand director of Civil Liberties department was a silent but known candidate. He supported Johnson.

The withdrawal of Jones just a few minutes before the election on Tuesday morning came as a surprise to his supporters who had waged a heated campaign in his behalf even to the point of fist fights on the convention floor.

Immediately following the grand exalted ruler's report, the election was ordered. It was understood to have been a secret ballot, but without notice it was switched to a standing vote.

Later Jones stated that he withdrew in the best interests of the Order and that he did not have time to caucus with his supporters.

Jones did mention, however, that there must have been some "slick" maneuvering because "there were so many people out there (meaning the Armory) who I doubted had the right to be there."

That same afternoon Mrs. Net.

Bertram V. Gregory of Detroit.
Grand Esteemed Leading Knight
(second) in command to John-
son); Harvey Harris of White
Plains, N. Y.. Grand Esteemed

Loyal Randolph, Baltimore, Md. Dr. Carter Marshall, New Haven, Grand Master of Social Session;
J. A. Simmons, Norfolk, Va., Other appointments included: S. R. Houchins, Northfolk, W. Va.,
Grand Organizer. Western States; Douglass Simpson, San Francisco,
Los Angeles, Calif., Grand Esquire; ington, Grand Organizer.

"Peaceful" Henry Davis, Los Angeles, Calif.; J. B. Jones of Wash-
ington, Grand Director of Civil Liberties, ganizer, Southern states; Doug-

dosta, Ga.. Grand Tiler;

PPhiladelphia was reappointed Junior Elks; Albert Bethune, sr.,
Hobson R. Reynolds of Lancaster, Pa., Director of Health Commission; A. W.

Detroit, Michigan, Val-Avisser, D. C., Grand Legal Hill, Mobile, Ala.: Executive Secre-

N. Y. Grand Inner Washington, Perry W. Howard, Commissioner of Mobile, Tenn., Lecturing phis, Tenn., Commissioner of Education; Butler, Education; Perry W. Howard, Commissioner of Education; Butler, Education; Perry W. Howard,

Knight; Benjamin J. Butler, Education; Perry W. Howard, Commissioner of Education; Butler, Education; Perry W. Howard,

Rocky Mount, N. C., Trustees; George W. Lee, Mem-Dr. Eddie T. Belsaw,

Cross Gordon as head of the Daughter Elks, was elected grand daughter ruler without opposi-tion. All other officers were re-elected. They are:

Commissioner:
T. Belsaw,

Truly Hatchett, Baltimore, Md.,
Assistant Commissioner of Edu-
cation, Dr. Simson Smith, Hun-
tington, W. Va., Director of
Awards.

Also, Charles P. McClane,
Steelton, Pa., Director of Public
Relations; Charles E. Hall, Wash-
ington, D. C., Statistician; Al-
bert Reading, Chester, Pa., Com-
missioner of Transportation; Dr.
Bernard Harris, Baltimore, Md.,
Chairman of Publishing Board;
Henry Berth, Philadelphia, Lieut.
Gen. Antlered Guard; Charles
Dunaway, Atlantic City, N. J.,
Major General, Antlered Guard

Elks Order Leaders Visit Norfolk For Regional Oratorical Contest

Journal and Guide Sat. 7-19-52

P. 5 Norfolk, Va.



The original oratorical contest involving entrants from four states and the District of Columbia, with a \$1,000 Elks scholarship as the prize, drew a large number of officials of the male and female branches of the IBPOEW to Norfolk Sunday afternoon. Snapped at First Baptist Church, Bute Street, scene of the contest, were (left to right) Charles Lawrence, Clarksburg, W. Va.;

Mrs. Pearl Brown, Baltimore, Md., state educational director; Joseph Simmons, Norfolk, Virginia state president; Mrs. Beatrice West, Washington, D. C., general chairman; Mrs. Mandonna Owens, Portsmouth, state organist; Mrs. Annie B. Rose, Alexandria, Va., state chairman; Mrs. Lillian R. Sockum, Dover, Del.; Mrs. Margaret Myers, Arlington, Va., state president;

Mrs. Buena Kelly Berry, Norfolk, grand daughter secretary-treasurer; Truly Hatchett, Baltimore, Md., regional director and master of ceremonies; Mrs. L. K. Mumford, Norfolk, a secretary to the grand secretary; Mrs. Helene S. Iee, Suffolk, Va., state secretary; Mrs. Leola Love Clarke, secretary, local educational committee; Mrs. J. Z.

Fowlkes, Norfolk, chairman local education committee; Mrs. Hattie Hollowell, Norfolk, district deputy and state treasurer; Perry Arter, Clarks-

burg, W. Va., grand chorister; and Mrs. Vera E. David, Norfolk, special deputy and assistant secretary, local educational committee.

Anti-Discrimination Bill Blocked In N. Y.

ALBANY, N.Y.—The Judiciary Committee of the General Assembly, Wednesday, pigeonholed a bill to bar discrimination against colored people by fraternal societies, which was aimed directly at the Knights of Pythias.

Nicholas Atlas, New York attorney and an active Pythian, had sponsored the bill, the provisions of which would prohibit any "benevolent order" from denying membership to any person "by reason of his color."

Suspension Move Made To Fight Bias

NEW YORK — (ANP) — The Grand Lodge of the Knights of Pythias of the State of New York's suit to halt suspension of its charter last week was taken under advisement by Supreme Court Justice Ernest E. I. Hammer.

The plaintiffs contended in their petition that they are being penalized by the Supreme Lodge of Pythians for their activities to end racial discrimination. The national organization answered that the racial issue had been raised to cover the state group's raising funds by "running a lottery," which is a violation of the Pythian by-laws.

Tabors Meet To Reorganize Order

P. 1
International Chief Arrives
For Conference

Chen
Rev. F. J. Straughter, Muskogee, Chief Grand Mentor of the Knights of Tabor, together with International Chief Grand Mentor P. M. Smith, Mound Bayou, Miss., were in Oklahoma City Thursday to meet with state officials of the Order looking forward to a reorganization of the order in the state. The meeting was held in the home of Mrs. Lucy Walker, northeast of the city.

3-29-52
The Knights of Tabor own valuable property in Guthrie and was a very flourishing organization during the life of Rev. J. E. Toombs, and with Rev. Straughter at the helm and the international officials boosting it is expected to revive and again become one of the progressive fraternal orders in the state.

National Shriners Convention Set

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind. — Some 5,000 Shriners and their wives are expected to attend the 1952 Imperial Council Convention of the Ancient Egyptian Arabic Order Nobles of the Mystic Shrine here August 17-23. Edward Clemans, General Chairman of the Persian Temple and Court Convention Planning Committee has announced.

Reservation for the delegates are coming in from every state where the national organization has Temples. There are more than 142 Temples in many cities across the nation with a membership of nearly 22,000. The convention will open with a Memorial Service, Sunday evening, August 17 presided over by Dr. Raymond E. Jackson, Buffalo, New York, Imperial Potentate. The program is scheduled for Bethel A. M. E. Church. The Memorial address will be delivered by Dr. Charles E. Stewart, Albany, New York.

The Welcoming ceremonies will be held Monday with prominent persons delivering addresses. Mayor Alex M. Clark will speak. Governor Henry F. Schriker has been invited to address the gathering.

The organization, founded June 10, 1893 and re-organized in 1900 by High Degree Prince Hall Masons, is expected to expand its war against Cancer and Tuberculosis following reports on the charity department. The Shriners' Tuberculosis and Cancer Research Foundation, the order's charity department, has established a Tuberculosis research clinic at Freeman Hospital, Washington, D. C.; and Cancer research trust at Hamer G. Phillips Hospital, Saint Louis, Missouri. Reports are expected in the fields of study grants made in cooperation with the American Cancer Society.

Delegates will hear reports of the work of the Public Relations Department in its field of Public affairs and the progress report of one year of study by the Educational Department, a department

established during the 1951 convention. Other department heads and officers of the fraternity will present detailed accounts of their activities during the year.

Convention highlights include the annual Arabic guarded patrols, Marching clubs and bands Parade on Wednesday afternoon, August 20, competitive drills in Tech High School gymnasium, a singing contest, the Imperial Potentate's Ball and a ceremonial.

The sixth annual Shriners' Talent and Beauty Pageant is scheduled at Tech High School at 8:30 P. M. Wednesday, August 20 under the direction of Booker T. Alexander, Detroit, Michigan, Imperial Promotional Director. Talented young ladies, representing Temples from various sections of the nation, will vie for more than \$4,000 in educational scholarships and the title of "Miss Shrine Princesses—1952". Miss Gypsy Dawn Manor, New York City, is the present title holder and will appear at the crowning of her successor.

Shriners Re-Elect Dr. R E. Jackson Imperial Potentate

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind., Sept. 1—Dr. Raymond E. Jackson of Buffalo, N. Y., Imperial Potentate, was reelected to head the Ancient Egyptian Arabic Order Nobles of the Mystic Shrine of North and South America, during the Shriner's national convention here last week.

Others elected were: Zack Alexander, of Charlotte, N. C., deputy Imperial Potentate; Joseph W. Given, Pittsburgh, Pa., Imperial Chief Rabbah; Hiseog K. Oliver, Los Angeles, Imperial Assistant Rabbah; Dr. Charles E. Stewart, New York, Imperial High Priest; and Prophet: J. E. Dixon, Columbia,

S. C., Imperial Oriental Guide.

Also Claude E. Watkins, Marion Ind., Imperial Treasurer; Charles C. Quander, Bronx N. Y., Imperial Recorder; Henry W. Wolf, Tunica, Miss.; Imperial First Ceremonial Master; William O. Greene, Detroit, Imperial Second Ceremonial Master; Leroy Smith, Denver,

Colo., Imperial Captain of the Guard; and William H. Howe, Philadelphia, Imperial Guard.

Dr. Jackson told the convention that "one application of Shrinedom's brand of understanding would avoid most of the trouble which has caused confusion in many communities across the nation and in the governments of the world."

One highlight of the convention was the appointment of Dr. Jackson to the board of directors of "Freedom Foundation." The announcement was made by Kenneth E. Wells, foundation president.

A total of \$4,000 in scholarships were awarded by the Shriners. Attending the convention from Tulsa were Phineas Thompson, Robert Moreland, Ernest Byrd, B. W. English, Henry Nails, Amos T. Hall and Will Lett. They returned to Tulsa Friday, August 22.

The organization represents 20,000 men in some 142 cities. Feature of the annual convention was the full-dress parade. The 1953 convention will be held in Denver, Colo.

Arabia Temple Shriners In Divan Meet; Adopt Program

PORTSMOUTH, Va. — The Divan of Arabia Temple No. 12, of the Ancient Egyptian Arabic Order of the Nobles of the Mystic Shrine, adopted the year's program of its illustrious potentate, Morris E. Richardson, at a recent meeting at the Shrine Mosque here. The Divan is composed of all past potentates, officers, and committee chairmen of the Temple. The annual dinner followed the meeting.

During the year, the Shriners made many donations to community projects. Included were \$100 to Norfolk Community Hospital; \$25 to the Roberts Park Nursery; \$25 to the Oak Leaf Park Nursery; \$25 to Dorcas Old Folks Home; \$25 to the Liberty Park Nursery; \$25 to the Norfolk County High School band; \$90 to the Boy Scouts of Suffolk; \$21 to the Boy Scouts of Smithfield; \$10 to the Holland Community Center; and \$75 for shoes for indigent school children. Over \$200 was also spent for a Christmas party for underprivileged children.

All proceeds from the annual Fish Bowl classic football game at Foreman Field in Norfolk went to the Shriners Tuberculosis and Cancer Foundation.

MEN WHO hold membership in the organization are of high standing in Virginia Masonry. They include: David Muckle, grand master of the Grand Lodge of Virginia; James E. Fulford, of Norfolk, marshal; Dan Allen, Nor-Berkley, David Alston, of Norfolk, outer guard; William C. Carter, of Newter, Norfolk, chanter of the York, all past grand masters of the Grand Lodge of Virginia. Belleville, lecturer; Leroy Burke

The rolls also include Harry C. Sr., Suffolk, assistant lecturer; H. Holman of Suffolk, the State Lodge's grand senior warden; Daughters of Isis; Willie Jeffer-Bishop Howard Z. Plummer ofon, Portsmouth, captain of pabelleville, grand senior deacon; John L. Parker, Norfolk, di-Charles H. Harris, grand trustee; rector; Thomas H. Reid, Ports-Morris Richardson, Portsmouth, legal advisor; John J. and William E. Sears, Norfolk, Brown, Portsmouth, reporter; Mr. past grand high priests of Vir-Young, director of public rela-ginia Holy Royal Arch Masons, tions; Vernon Scott, Norfolk, di-and past grand eminent com-rector of music; Robert M. Jon-mander of Knight Templars ofes, Norfolk, chairman of enter-tainment committee; W. H. Bry-ant, Norfolk, chairman of Fish-Bowl Classic; H. C. Holman, chairman of auditing committee,

MR. RICHARDSON is illustrious Potentate of Arabia Temple.

He succeeded C. Thomas Younge. Mr. Richardson is past master of Truxton Lodge 199 of the Masons; past high priest of Truxton chap-ter 34 of Royal Arch Masons; past right eminent grand com-mander of Antioch Commandery Illustrious Potentate, Morris E. Richardson, at a recent meeting grand high priest of King Cyrus at the Shrine Mosque here. grand chapter of Holy Royal Arch Masons of Virginia; past right eminent grand commander of King Baldwin's grand com-mandery of Knights Templars of Virginia. He is also past pres-ident of Local 319-A of the Inter-national Brotherhood of Firemen and Oilers, and at present is that organization's recording secre-tary. Mr. Richardson is a mem-ber of the Usher Board of Mt. Hermon Baptist Temple.

OFFICERS OF Arabia Temple 12, are Mr. Richardson, illustrious potentate; Milton Keeling, Belle-ville, chief rabban; W. H. Bryant, Norfolk, assistant rabban; Robert Billups, Norfolk, high priest and prophet; James W. Spellman, Norfolk, oriental guide; Sidney Perry, Portsmouth, treasurer; David Muckle, Portsmouth, re-corder; C. T. Younge, Ports-mouth, assistant recorder; Jerry W. Robinson, Belleville, first cere-monial master; Solomon Green, Portsmouth, second ceremonial

master; Robert M. Jones, Nor-folk, captain of the guard; Her-man W. Franklyn, Norfolk, mar-shall; Dan Allen, Norfolk, outer guard; William C. Carter, Nor- Virginia; James E. Fulford, of folk, marshal; Dan Allen, Nor-Berkley, David Alston, of Nor-folk, outer guard; William C. Car-folk, and L. L. Berry, of Newter, Norfolk, chanter of the Ko-York, all past grand masters of the Grand Lodge of Virginia. Belleville, lecturer; Leroy Burke

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The Shrine Mosque in Portsmouth was the setting last Thursday evening of a testimonial dinner arranged by the Knights Templar in honor of Sir Knight R. H. Covington, (center), a past eminent commander of Antioch

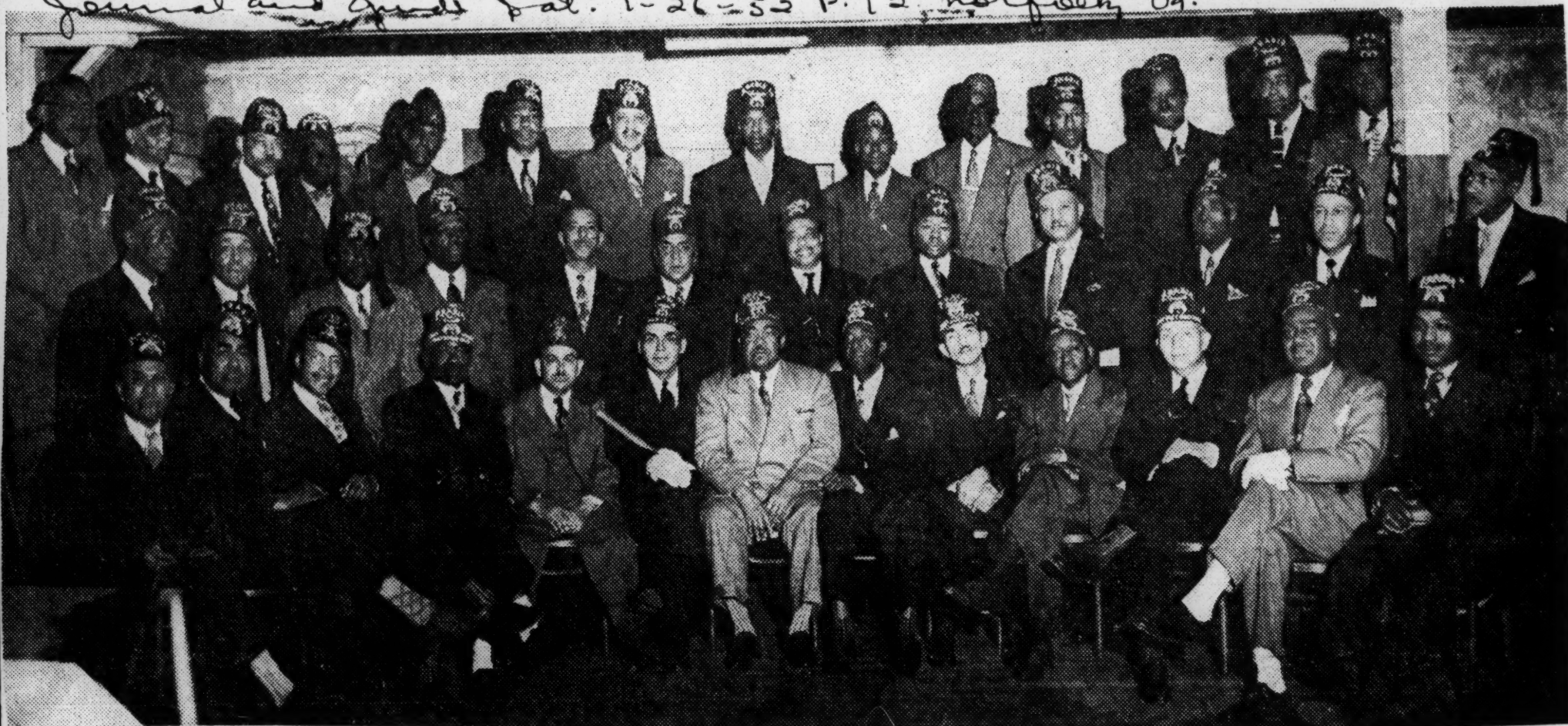
Commandry No. 7 of Ports-mouth, who had served this organization forty years as recorder. Sir Knight Covington has been a 33rd degree Mason for over 30 years. Shown on the picture with him are his wife, who shared the

honors and was presented an orchid, and A. O. Rawls, who served as master of ceremonies. High-ranking dignitaries of the masonic craft were among those who lauded the veteran fraternal figure.

James W. Spellman, and John J. Brown, members.

Divan Of Arabia Temple No. 12 Of Shriners In Annual Meeting

Journal and Guide Vol. 1-26-52 P. 12 Norfolk Va.



Above is the Divan of Arabia Temple No. 12. of the Shriners, which met at the Mosque, in Portsmouth, Va., and adopted the Illustrrious Potentate's program for 1952. Front row, left to right, Past Potentates John S. Parker, Leroy Burke, J. E. Melvin, Watson, Alexander Washington, H. C. Holman; Illustrrious Potentate Morris E. Richardson; David Alston, J. E. Fulford, John H. Arrington, J. H. Arrington, J. H. Sawyer, Obadiah Waldon, C. T. Younge, and Herman Franklyn.

Second row, left to right, bottom right is Herman L. Past Potentates Sidney Burke, Harris, deputy of the Oasis of David M. Rainey, I. H. Neal, Portsmouth, and director of Earl C. Elliott, Henry Mc-the annual Fish Bowl Classic Jimpsey, Reporter John J Football game.

Brown; Past Potentate Herman Charity; Treasurers Sidney Perry and Charles Harris; Director of Music, Vernon Scott; Louis A. Hodges, and Melvin L. Keeling.

Back row, left to right, Herman L. Harris, Department of the Oasis; Solomon Green, second ceremonial master; Robert M. Jones, captain of the guard; James C. Gamble, Dan Allen, outer guard; Oteal L. Radcliffe, Willie Jefferson,

captain of the patrol; John Daughtry, Robert Billups, high priest and prophet; P. J. Chesson, Milton Keeling, chief rabban; Jack Alston, J. Burney Mayfield and James W. Spellman, oriental guard.

Divan members not on picture are William H. Bryant, assistant rabban; Jerry W. Robinson, first ceremonial master; William C. Carter, chanter of the Koran; and Thomas H. Reid, legal advisor.

At lower left is Illustrrious Potentate Richardson and

field, were among those active in planning the convention.

Alabama Masons Hold 82nd Annual Confab

SHEFFIELD, Ala. — The 82nd annual Grand Communication of the Most Worshipful Prince Hal Grand Lodge, F and AM of Alabama was to hold sessions here July 22-24, according to Grand Master Charles V. Hendly.

Two hundred delegates were expected to attend. Grand Trustee P. B. Swopes and Prof. R. A. Stewart, of Shef-

Denies Petition For New Masonic Body

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo. — A group of men who sought to set up a new Masonic organization in this state failed in their attempt when Judge Sam C. Blair of the Cole county circuit court denied a petition for a preformal decree of incorporation.

Judge Blair, after reviewing all the facts in the case, denied the application filed by the group which called itself the Afric-American Free and Accepted Masons of the United States.

The petition of the Afric-American group was protested by the

Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge Free and Accepted Masons of Missouri and jurisdiction of which Dr. Waite H. Madison is grand master.

In his ruling, Judge Blair said that the "Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge Free and Accepted Masons of Missouri" and jurisdiction is an old established, well known and respected Masonic organization, having continuous existence in this state since 1865.

He found that the name proposed by the petitioners deceptively similar and a colorable imitation of the name presently belonging to a legitimate Masonic organization, to wit: Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge Free and Accepted Masons of Missouri and jurisdiction; and such similarity in names will cause confusion among the public, disturb the peace of society and will be a fraud upon the presently existing old, established and well known and respected Prince Hall Masonic organization.

Judge Blair said further that the proposed use by the Afric-American group of the same or colorable imitations of the insignia, laws, rituals and degrees now belonging to the Prince Hall Masons also would cause confusion and be a fraud upon the Prince Hall organization.

The judge referred to the provisions of chapter 817, Revised Statutes of Missouri for 1949, which he said make it a misdemeanor for petitioners "to usurp the distinctive portion of the protestants name, to wit: 'Free and Accepted Masons' or to use the same or colorable imitations of

the insignia, laws, rituals and degrees presently belonging to protestant's Masonic organization."

The petition for incorporation was denied.

Appearing for the Prince Hall Masons against the petitioners were: James T. Blair, Jr., lieutenant-governor of Missouri; Darold W. Jenkins of Jefferson City, and Amos T. Hall of Tulsa, grand master of the Prince Hall grand lodge of Oklahoma and jurisdiction.

Attorney for the petitioners was Curtis J. Quimby of Jefferson City.

Court Orders Masonic Lodge To Merge With Legal Body Or Disband

COLUMBUS, Ga.—J. B. Baldwin, head of Supreme Grand Lodge, Modern Free and Accepted Colored Masons of the World, announced last week that his group has completed plans for a merger with the National Guard Lodge, F and A York Masons, Prince Hall Compact.

The action grew out of a Middle District court decision ordering the Supreme Grand Lodge to merge within a year with some other legally constituted Masonic body or dissolve.

Judge A. B. Conger handed down the decision last Friday against the Masonic group which has its principal office in Columbus.

Plaintiff in the case was Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge, F and A. Masons, Jurisdiction of Georgia. The trial continued seven days.

The defendant was alleged to "have the tendency to deceive and confuse the public... and especially to confuse and deceive

prospective members of the plaintiff."

In his ruling Judge Conger enjoined the defendant from the ritual ceremonies of the plaintiff and using any insignia, name, emblem, badge, symbol, or paraphernalia of the plaintiff.

According to informants, Baldwin claims to have received a charter in the state of Alabama in 1921. He now claims to operate in 17 or 18 different states, among them Florida, Mississippi, Louisi-

ana, Texas, Tennessee, Missouri, Illinois, Michigan, Ohio, West Virginia, North and South Carolina. The recent court action stops his operation in the state of Georgia.

Baldwin said in announcing the planned merger that the agreement to consolidate was reached at a meeting last month with Rev. W. L. Turner of Birmingham, national guard master of the York lodge.

J. W. Dobbs To Visit Egypt On Tour Abroad

John Wesley Dobbs, "father of Georgia masonry," is headed for a three-month world tour during which time he will visit the Temple of Kanark in Egypt—the trade of Free Masonry.

The Grand Master of Prince Hall Masons of Georgia will be accompanied on the trip by his wife both of whom will make their headquarters at Paris, France, as a guest of their gifted daughter Mattiwilda, a soprano signed by La Scala Opera House of Milan, Italy.

Mr. and Mrs. Dobbs will leave Tuesday for New York City, where they will set sail on the Queen Elizabeth luxury liner for Sherbourg, France. There they will meet their daughter, Mattiwilda, and begin a tour of Switzerland and Italy.

At Rome, the Thirty-Third Degree Mason will leave his family and begin a 16-day flying tour that will cover Athens, Istanbul, Beirut, Jerusalem, Cairo and Tunis. He will then rejoin his family at

Rome. Mr. and Mrs. Dobbs will return home on May 29.

"I'm embarking upon this tour for a broadening educational and historical viewpoints," the Masonic leaders said.

He pointed out that the primary purpose of the trip is "to observe the relationship of these historic landmarks to Free Masonry."

"Free Masonry began in Egypt," he said, "and there I intend to visit the Temple Kanark, called 'House of Mysteries,'" he added.

The socially prominent Atlanta couple is leaving the city armed with letters of introduction to important European contacts established by several widely-traveled Atlantans which include Mayor William B. Hartsfield and Ralph McGill.

King's Death Recalls Old Letter

Afro American P. 9
Det. 2-16-52 from the B. C. C. M. D.
Grand Lodge of the State of Pennsylvania
 to the
United Grand Lodge of England

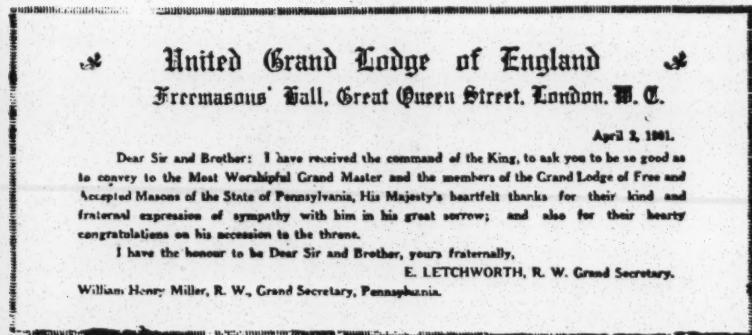
Office of the R. W. Grand Secretary.
 731 Alber Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, U. S. A. A. E. 5901 A. E. 1901
TO EDWARD VII, King of Great Britain, Emperor of India, etc., Protector of Freemasonry:—

Illustrious and Very Dear Brother: By command of Joseph L. Thomas, Esq., Most Worshipful Grand Master of Free Masons of the State of Pennsylvania, U. S. A., I address you, tendering the heartfelt sympathy of the Grand Master and craft in the terrible bereavement you have sustained in the loss of your esteemed mother, Queen Victoria, who, by the uprightness and purity of her conduct in the administration of the affairs of the nation, has endeared herself to the whole civilized world and will live in the memory of the people for all time to come. I am also charged to extend to you our heartfelt congratulations on your elevation to the throne and indulge the hope that you may be spared by the Great Architect of the Universe for many years to direct the destiny of our beloved country which has ingratiated itself into the hearts of all Afro-Americans owing to the humane stand taken in reference to the abolition of human slavery and the extinction of the African slave trade.

With the utmost fraternal greetings, I beg leave to subscribe myself yours in the mystic tie.

WILLIAM HENRY MILLER, P.G.M.,
 Rt. W. Grand Secretary

By command of
JOSEPH L. THOMAS, M.W. Grand Master
 No. 429 East State Street, Harrisburg, Pa



The death of King George VI of England on Wednesday recalled to the memory when a letter, which the above is a facsimile, was sent as condolences to King Edward VIII upon the death of his mother Queen Victoria 50 years ago by the Masonic Grand Master of Pennsylvania, Joseph

L. Thomas. The letter was dated March 16, 1901 and was addressed to the United Grand Lodge of England. At the bottom of the 50-year-old document is the reply of the United Grand Lodge of England to the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania.

U. S. Masons Mourn Death Of George VI

By **RALPH JONES**
 PHILADELPHIA

Death of King George VI of England, on Wednesday, recalls that upon the death of Queen Victoria 50 years ago, the Masonic grand master of Pennsylvania, Joseph L. Thomas, sent condolences to King Edward VII.

The letter was dated March 16, 1901, and was specifically addressed to the United Grand Lodge of England.

A Brotherly Salutation

Following the correct formal "To Edward VII, King of Great Britain, Emperor of India, etc., Protector of Freemasonry" was a very informal "Illustrious and Very Dear Brother" salutation.

In back of this letter of condolences and at the same time congratulations for his ascension to the throne of England lay the deep seated gratitude of colored Masons of America.

Established First Lodge

Through the issuance of a charter to Prince Hall of Boston, the first legitimate colored Masonic Lodge was established. Establishment of this lodge paved the way

for George Washington to recognize Prince Hall and several other colored Masons when they appealed to him to use free colored citizens in the Revolutionary War for freedom from England.

The missive also acknowledged the humane stand King Edward had assumed in the matter of the abolition of slavery in America and his efforts to break the African slave trade.

Acknowledgement Received

Acknowledgement of the letter was made by E. Letchworth, right worshipful grand secretary of the United Grand Lodge of England. It, too, was couched in the warm language of the fraternity.

The deceased King George, just as most of the presidents of the United States, was also a high Mason. It is very probable that Pennsylvania's present grand master, William D. Horner, will address a similar letter to Queen Elizabeth.

English Masonry Unbiased

Since the establishment of Masonry in England there has been but a minimum of racial discrimination. Colored people who meet the high standards required for membership have been, and still are, initiated into the fraternity.

During the war many American colored Masons in the armed services gained admittance into Eng-

lish lodges when they were able to prove themselves as members of the fraternal order.

Legitimacy Proven

A direct tie-up between Prince lodge has been definitely established by white masons. The Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, white, several years ago took part in research conducted by a commission of high Masons to discredit the claims of legitimacy of the colored

Masons.

They found, however, that the colored Masons were just as legitimate as they and their charter came from the same source. Their findings were carried in full page advertisements, paid for by the white Masons, in the daily papers of that State.



F. L. BREWSTER

F. L. Brewster Wins Court Action Against Tennessee Masonic Order

CHATTANOOGA, Tenn. — (SNS) Mr. F. L. Brewster, former Grand Master of the Masons of Tennessee, outstanding churchman, won a significant victory over his adversaries in the Mason organization.

Brewster said that he got everything in court that he contended the court's proceedings as it relates to the Brewster case, which is self-explanatory.

According to Chancery Court records the lawsuit regarding the affairs of Prince Hall Masonic Temple, a corporation composed of the colored Masons of Chattanooga and Hamilton County, has been settled.

It appears that a small group of members of certain Masonic lodges in Chattanooga brought suit against F. L. Brewster and others on February 17, 1949, alleging that Brewster had mishandled the funds of the Prince Hall Masonic Temple while he was treasurer of the Prince Hall Masonic Board.

The allegations made in the suit was denied by F. L. Brewster and he filed a cross bill against the Prince Hall Masonic Temple alleging that he had furnished his own funds in payment of taxes, repairs and other debts and charges against the property of Prince Hall Masonic Temple, located at 411½ East Ninth Street in Chattanooga.

The claims and counterclaims were heard by Honorable Alvin Ziegler, Chancellor, and a judgment was rendered on Brewster's cross bill a few days ago in the sum of \$6000, which sum has been paid according to the records of the Chancery Court. F. D. Brewster has been prominent in the affairs of colored Masons for the past thirty-five years. He was elected Grand Master of the State of Tennessee and its jurisdiction in 1940 and served in that capacity for seven years, after which he resigned as Grand Master because of his health.

Mr. Brewster served on the local Board of the Masonic Temple for many years and had an active part in the work of masonry in Chattanooga and the state of Tennessee until the lawsuit was filed against him.

Mr. Brewster states that he is sorry that dissension was brought about in the ranks of masonry and wishes his friends to know that he was forced to defend himself when attacked by a disgruntled group in the Order without just grounds for bringing a lawsuit against him and others.

Henry L. Barger, attorney, represented Mr. Brewster in this case.

Ambassador Honored By Masons



Liberian Ambassador Clarence L. Simpson, center, as he was being honored by the Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Masons at Club Cimarron recently. From left to right are Grand Master Lawrence E. Hawkins, Ambassador Simpson, and Louis W. Roy, Sr., secretary general of the Scottish Rite Masons. The

Prince Hall Masons Honor C. L. Simpson

WASHINGTON — Clarence L. Simpson, Liberian Ambassador to the U. S., was guest of honor at a dinner given by Grand Master Lawrence E. Hawkins and the Cabinet of the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Masons, Friday evening at Club Cimarron. Ambassador Simpson is Past Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Prince Hall Masons of West Coast Africa, Grand Worthy Patron of the Grand Chapter, Order

of Eastern Star at Liberia, Deputy of the Valley of Liberia for the United Supreme Council of Scottish Rite Masons, Southern Jurisdiction, a Thirty-third Degree of Freemasonry.

The fete marked the initial public appearance of Ambassador Simpson as a Prince Hall Mason. Past Master Ottawa J. Saunders of St. John Lodge was the toastmaster. *Jan 6-21-52*

Three Minute Speeches
Past Grand Master Jesse H.

Ambassador is past grand master of Prince Hall Masons in Liberia and a 33rd Degree Scottish Rite Mason. (Sorrel Photo).

Mitchell, president of the Industrial Bank of Washington made a three minute speech welcoming Ambassador Simpson to the District on behalf of the colored businessmen.

Other speeches were made by the Rev. Melvin J. Key, protestant ministers; Grand Master Lawrence F. Hawkins, Prince Hall Masonry Louis W. Roy, Scottish Rite Masons;

James W. Tyler, Order of Eastern Star; Allan A. C. Griffith, other fraternal groups Hartwell T. Willis, Holy Royal Arch Masons; Eugene Dickerson, Mecca Temple Shriners; and Edmund M. Chaplin, president of the Acacia Masonic Hall Association.

Masonic Dignitaries

Other masonic dignitaries at

the dinner were: David P. Highley, deputy grand master Barry B. Hampton, grand senior warden; Arthur E. Brooks grand junior warden; Addison W. Chapman, grand secretary; Dr. Sylvester F. Blackwell, grand treasurer; Clyde C. Oliver, assistant grand secretary; Clarence Reed, grand publicist; Clifton O. Lyles, Grand C.C.F.C.

Past Grand Masters Cyrus N. Parker, M. J. Key, J. H. Mitchell, L. W. Roy, Sr., Allan A. C. Griffith, S. W. Wallace, Alfred E. Dotson; also

Jacob A. Handy, Commander-Dr. Raymond E. Jackson of Buffalo, N.Y., imperial potentate was in-chief of Jonathan Davis Con-falo, N.Y., imperial potentate was sistory of 32nd Degree Scottishre-elected to head the Ancient Rite Masons and Hartwell T. Wil-Egyptian Arabic Order Nobles of lis, Grand High Priest of the the Mystic Shrine of North and Adolphus P. Hall Grand Chapter South America, during the Shrin-of Holy Royal Arch Masons. Amer-er's national convention here last bassador Simpson, in response to week.

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Claude E. Watkins, Marion, Ind., treasurer; Charles C. Quander, Bronx, N.Y., recorder; Henry W. Wolf, Tunica, Miss., first ceremonial master; William O. Greene, Detroit, second ceremonial master; Leroy Smith, Denver, Colo., captain of the guard, and William H. Howe, Philadelphia, guard.

Shrinedom Pattern For World
Dr. Jackson told the convention that "one application of Shrine-dom's brand of understanding would avoid most of the trouble which has caused confusion in many communities across the nation and in the governments of the world."

One highlight of the convention was the appointment of Dr. Jackson to the board of directors of "Freedom Foundation." The announcement was made by Kenneth E. Wells, foundation president.

Pittsburgher 'Shrine Princess'

During the beauty and talent contest, Miss Juanita Woods of Pittsburgh won the title, "Miss Shrine Princess," and a \$1,500 scholarship. She will enter Carnegie Tech in Pittsburgh.

Miss Clementine Weaver, Raleigh, N.C., won second prize of \$1,000 and will enter Shaw University in North Carolina this fall.

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Deputy Potentate

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Jan 8-30-52
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A total of \$4,000 in scholarships were awarded by the Shriners.

Miss Janet Greene, Kansas City, Mo., was selected by 25 participants in the sixth annual talent and beauty contest, "Miss Personality."

The organization represents 20,000 men in some 142 cities.

The annual convention feature was the full-dress parade.

The 1953 convention will be held in Denver, Colo.

EQUAL PAY PLAN APPROVED

RICHMOND, Va. (ANP) — The Richmond County Board of Education this week approved a new salary schedule equalizing salaries of white and colored teachers, and authorized construction of four colored schools.

Reelect Jackson Imperial Potentate Of Shriners At Indianapolis Confab

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind. — (ANP) — Dr. Raymond E. Jackson, of Buffalo, N.Y., Imperial Potentate, was reelected to head the Ancient Egyptian Arabic Order, Nobles of the Mystic Shrine of North and South America, during the Shriner's national convention here last week. *at 8-30-52*

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Claude E. Watkins, Marion, Ind., Imperial Treasurer; Charles C. Quander, Bronx, N.Y., Imperial Recorder; Henry W. Wolf, Tunica Miss., Imperial First Ceremonial Master; William O. Greene, Detroit, Imperial Second Ceremonial Master; Leroy Smith, Denver Colo., Imperial Captain of the Guard; and William H. Howe, Philadelphia, Imperial Guard.

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sas City, Mo., was selected from 25 participants in the 6th annual talent and beauty contests "Miss Personality."

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Judge Orders Modern Masons To Dissolve Or Merge Within Year

A United States court decision ordering the Supreme Grand Lodge Modern Free and Accepted Masons of the World to "dissolve or merge with some other legally constituted Masonic body within a year," was hailed here by Grand Master John John Wesley Dobbs of the Georgia Prince Hall Masons, as a signal victory that "will bolster Masonic progress in the state of Georgia."

Judge A. B. Conger of Middle District Court handed down the far-reaching decision against the Clan-destine Masonic group which has its principal offices in Columbus, Georgia.

Plaintiff was Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge, Free and Accepted Masons, Jurisdiction of Georgia. Defendant was Supreme Grand Lodge, Modern Free and Accepted Colored Masons of the World.

The plaintiff alleged in its petition "the words Free and Accepted Masons are the distinctive words in the name of the plaintiff which cardinally distinguishes it from fraternal bodies of like kind in the United States."

The petition further alleges the defendant to be wholly spurious and an illegal body. The defendant was also alleged to have the tendency to deceive and confuse the public and especially to confuse and deceive prospective members of the plaintiff. The defendant denied this claim.

business as now carried on or merge with the York Masons or some other legally constituted and legally existing Masonic body."

To support his ruling, Judge Conger said, "I find that the defendant's use of the words 'free and accepted' is an infringement on the real name or trade name of the plaintiff and is such a colorable imitation there of that the general public in exercise of ordinary care, might think or be led to believe that it is the name of the plaintiff, who had the first and prior right to the use of the name."

"I find as a matter of fact that the use of the words 'free and accepted' by the defendant are a fraud against the plaintiff."

DOMINATION CHARGED

"Interest of the defendant (J. B. Baldwin) is pretty largely that of insurance or burial aid; that 98 per cent of its members carry one or the other; that the Supreme Grand officials receive their compensation, which is quite a remuneration from that feature of the organization."

The defendants books, introduced at the trial showed Baldwin as Supreme Grand Master, was paid approximately \$800 a month for several months in 1951. Baldwin intended to create the impression in the minds of the public, the judge stated, that he and his group were the ancient and original "free and accepted masons, which they are not."

Mr Baldwin stated that his group has already completed consolidation plans with the Colored Prince Hall compact. Complete arrangements will be announce later he said.

TO MEET IN CLEVELAND IN 1953:

Masonic Supreme Council Ends Detroit Convention

DETROIT (ANP) — After hearing reports of growth and selecting Cleveland as its next convention site, the National Supreme Council, Scottish Rite Masons, closed its eight-day 54th national convention here last week.

Delegates and visitors came from 37 states, the District of Columbia, the Virgin Islands, Philippines and Puerto Rico.

'Supreme Court Justices'

The nine ranking officers are Dr. W. J. Fitzpatrick, most powerful sovereign grand commander, Detroit; Ramon A. Martinez, deputy grand commander, New York; the Rev. H. B. Womack, lieutenant grand commander, Brooklyn; George V. Peters, grand secretary general, Tusculumbia, Md.

Alex Cottledge, grand treasurer general, Detroit; Dr. B. L. Burrows, grand chancellor, Mt. Pleasant, Tenn.; P. L. Patton, Huntsville, Ala.; J. E. Misonheimer, grand captain of the guard, Kanapolis, N.C., and the Rev. Mr. George W. Graham, Philadelphia.

A spectacular street parade through principal streets, a public meeting and a sermon highlighted

the public program of the convention. A banquet sponsored by the female departments of the order and the Shrine hall highlighted the social activities during the week.

\$20,157.50 Claims Paid

Reports showed that two state masonic organizations of other affiliations came over to the Scottish Rite jurisdiction. The National Charity department listed total claims \$20,157.50 from January 1951 to July 1952.

A new department, chapter of Princesses of the Royal Court was formed for women whose husbands, sons, bothers or some male member of the family, living or dead, is or has been a 32nd degree mason.

Mrs. Julia C. Fitzpatrick is national grand matron and national grand commandress of the Order Eastern Star and Daughters of Isis, respectively.

Negro Becomes Rotary Member

Columnist Sept. 4-5-52
Pittsburgh, Pa.
**First So Honored in His State, May
Also Be First Anywhere in America**

WILLOWS, Calif.—Inducted as a member of the Rotary Club here last week was Hadwick Thompson, a Negro, who is probably the only Negro so honored by Rotary in California. Thompson may also be the only Negro in America who is a full-fledged member of the Rotary.

Thompson, who is 58 years old and a bus driver for the Glenn County High School, was welcomed into the local Rotary by Dr. C. E. Rutledge of Richmond, Calif., district governor for Rotary, who noted the occasion with a fine letter to the Rev. Blake M. Franklin, local Rotary president.

FATHER OF three children himself, Mr. Thompson is one of the most popular men in the area with children here. He is also custodian of Honker Stadium, where he has developed what is reported to be the finest turf in the Sacramento Valley. He is an avid sports fan.

Thompson has been a resident of Willows for thirty-three years. One son, Hadwick Jr., served in the submarine service in World War II and also in the Korea conflict. He is now a policeman in Oakland. Betty, a daughter, is in the U. S. service in France. A third child died during the war.

The local Rotary had one Chinese member, Guey Jones, a farmer, who died last week. The club honored him at its last meeting.